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1. (Twice Amended) A side-emitting illumination device for  
B2 uniformly distributing light comprising:

an LED light source,

a light-transmitting rod which permits total internal  
reflection, and

outcoupling material affixed to an outer surface of the rod,  
wherein the width of the outcoupling material affixed to an outer  
surface of the rod controls the angular distribution of light  
leaving the side of the rod.

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Please add the following new Claim 19:

--19. (New) A method of controlling the angular distribution of  
B3 light leaving the side of a side-emitting illumination device for  
uniformly distributing light comprising:

providing a light-transmitting rod which permits total  
internal reflection with an outcoupling material along its side;

controlling the width of the outcoupling material to  
achieve a desired angular distribution of light leaving the side of  
the rod; and

illuminating the light-transmitting rod with an LED light  
source.--